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# Rural Wireless ISP Showcase and Workshop

### Agenda
*(subject to revision)*
Thursday, September 18, 2003
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC

This full-day event is designed to facilitate information dissemination about Rural WISPs as a compelling solution for rural broadband service. It will also provide an opportunity for the Commission to learn what, if any, regulatory barriers stand in the way of rural WISP deployment.

## 9:30 AM    Welcome and Introduction

## 9:40 AM    Welcoming Remarks
**Chairman Michael K. Powell**
**Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy**

## 10:00 AM    Technologies and Architectures: WISP Nuts & Bolts

WISP operators will describe their operations in rural America. These practical descriptions of technologies and system configurations will illustrate the wide variety of technologies and lessons learned, including: arranging backbone connections; exploiting technological advantages; and antenna sites necessary to bring high-speed wireless to diverse geographic environments.

**Presenters**:
 Marlon Schafer, *Odessa Office (Washington)*
 Douglas Campbell, *AMATechTel (Texas)*
 Mark Schultz, *Monet Mobile Networks (South Dakota)*
 Jim Pace, *Strategic Information Services, LLC (Idaho)*
 Roxanne White, *Evertek Enterprises (Iowa)*

**11:15 AM    WISP Implementation: Lessons Learned**

Rural WISPs will describe what it takes to start their operations and lessons they have learned.  Subjects covered will include: network and operating costs; customer acquisition and care; the value of partnerships; raising capital; and working with local officials.

**Remarks:** Commissioner Michael J. Copps

**Presenters**:
   Michael Butler, *Ice Communications(Alaska)*
   Neil J. Mulholland, *Prairie iNet (Iowa)*
   Joel Brick, *Sioux Valley Wireless (South Dakota)*
   Jim Selby & Scott Stevens, *The Aspen Wireless Network (Colorado)*
   Larry Roadman, *Margaretville (New York) Telephone Co.*

**12:30 PM    Lunch Break**

**1:30 PM    Workshop Panels**

| Government Funding | Applications and Community Building | Technical and Interference Issues |
|---|---|---|
| How can a rural WISP obtain loans, grants, guarantees, and start-up assistance from such agencies as the Rural Utilities Service of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Commerce?<br><br>Roberta Purcell, *Assistant Administrator, USDA RUS* | A focus on how WISPs are providing services and applications that help build and enhance rural communities.  Examples will include how WISPs are providing telemedicine, education, and other services in rural and remote communities.<br><br>Christina McCandless, *Cyber Mesa (New Mexico)*<br>Mike Peralta, *Tribal Digital Village (California)*<br>Gene Crick, *Telecommunity Resource Center (Texas)* | What are the FCC's rules, procedures and enforcement mechanisms applicable to WISPs? What are the alternatives available, i.e., licensed versus unlicensed spectrum? How can one solve interference issues?<br><br>Bruce Franca, *FCC OET*<br>Joe Casey, *FCC EB*<br>Michael Anderson, *PDQLink (Illinois)* |

**2:15 PM    Break**

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**2:25 PM**  **FCC Town Meeting**

An open forum opportunity for the FCC to hear how it can help facilitate rural WISP broadband deployment and services. The format will be Q&A.

**Panelists:**

Robert Pepper, *Chief, Policy Development*
Ed Thomas, *Chief, Office of Engineering & Technology*
John Muleta, *Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau*
Bruce Franca, *Deputy Chief, Office of Engineering & Technology*
Joe Casey, *Chief, Spectrum Enforcement Division, Enforcement Bureau*

**3:20 PM**  **Closing Remarks**

Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

**3:30 PM**  **Adjourn**

## Additional Information

### Registration

The Rural Wireless ISP Showcase and Workshop is open to the public and will be held in the Commission Meeting Room at the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, DC. There is no registration fee and seating is made available on a first come, first serve basis. Since a large attendance is expected, attendees are invited to RSVP to WISPShowcase@fcc.gov to help us ensure that we have sufficient facilities. Please indicate your name, who you represent, your email address, and which afternoon Workshop Panel you intend on attending.

### Facilities

The FCC is located at 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Directions and a map of the streets near the FCC is available at http://www.fcc.gov/portalsmap.html. The Commission Meeting Room is equipped with a Wi-Fi Internet network.

### Security

Please note that the FCC is a federal building with security. All attendees will be required to pass through security. Please allocate additional time to enter the building.

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## Webcast

The Rural Wireless ISP Showcase will be webcast live and archived for later viewing. During the afternoon Workshop Panels, only one panel will be webcast live. The other sessions will be recorded and made available for later viewing. Access to and additional information concerning the webcast is available at http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/.

## Reasonable Accommodations

Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need including as much detail as you can. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Make your request as early as possible; please allow at least 5 days advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau: For sign language interpreters, CART, and other reasonable accommodations: 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty). For accessible format materials (braille, large print, electronic files, and audio format): 202-418-0531 (voice), 202-418-7365 (tty)

## For More Information:

WISPShowcase@fcc.gov
(202) 418-2030